

THE FARMINGTON TIMES

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A GERMAN REHOBOAM

After the death of his father, Solomon, Rehoboam went up to Shechem to be made king. In advance of the coronation the people made the following request: "Thy father made our yoke grievous; now therefore ease thou somewhat the grievous servitude of thy father and his heavy yoke which he put upon us, and we will serve thee." Rehoboam took counsel for three days, while he took counsel. The elder statesmen advised conciliation. "If thou be kind to this people," they suggested, "and please them, and speak good words to them, they will be thy servants forever." But the crowned prince turned to younger advisers, who urged firmness. They advised that he tell the people that his little finger should be thicker than Solomon's loins. Rehoboam took this counsel, flattering to his autocratic pride, and said to the petitioners: "My father made your yoke heavy, but I will add thereto; my father chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions." So all Israel, except the house of Judah and the tribe of Benjamin turned from Rehoboam and made Jeroboam, an unscrupulous but astute politician, their king, and the great empire of David and Solomon passed forever from the stage of history.

This story from the second book of the Chronicles is brought to mind by the reported stand of Frederick William, the German crown prince, in the present crisis. He has not waited for the demise of his father to fling defiance in the face of the liberal element of Germany. His father has shown an exaggerated medieval conception of the divine rights of the king of Prussia to lord it over the people. But even the Kaiser sees the rising tide of democracy and has recommended concessions. He professes a willingness to ease the imperial yoke somewhat. But the crown prince, early advocate of the war, author of the tragedy of Verdun and defender of military oppression of the civilian population, snaps contemptuous fingers at talk of moderation. The submarine is no longer "a shining weapon" in the Kaiser's eyes, but the crown prince is prouder of it than ever as "the last argument of kings." How like unto Rehoboam is Frederick William in spirit. Is history preparing for another dramatic repetition?—Globe-Democrat.

THE LAW WILL GOVERN

The following set of resolutions was unanimously adopted by the assessors of Missouri in recent conference at Jefferson City:

Whereas, idle and semi-idle wealth, to the extent of many millions of dollars, commonly known as personal property of the invisible class, annually escapes taxation through the failure and refusal of its apathetic and satisfied owners to make return of it to the assessor, as required by law; and

Whereas, declining to return any value is more unjust and unlawful than returning property undervalued; and

Whereas, this kind of tax-dodging by predatory wealth is universally recognized as the greatest evil of the general property system of taxation; Therefore, be it resolved, that this conference, individually and collectively, most diligently employ every power given by law to uncover and assess personal property of the invisible class, valuing same in accordance with the law for valuing this and all other kinds of property subject to taxation; and

Whereas, Section 11384 R. S. Mo., 1909, provides that "the assessor shall value and assess all the property on his books according to its true value in money;" and

Whereas, the statutes in fifteen different places specify said value as the value at which to tax property, and as nowhere is mention made of any other value as the one to employ in making assessment; and

Whereas, Section 11344 requires the assessor to take oath that he will "assess all property at which he believes to be its actual cash value;" and

Whereas, no option is given the assessor in fixing valuations to depart from the value prescribed by law, the statute being mandatory and a penalty being fixed for failure, refusal or neglect to comply; and

Whereas, the law provides for varying the rate of levy within the maximum prescribed by the Constitution, so as to collect whatever quantity of taxes that may be necessary;

Therefore, be it resolved, that this conference believes that the only legal way provided to regulate the amount of taxes collected is to vary the rate, permitting law and facts, conscience and courage to determine valuation; and

Be it further resolved, that complying strictly with the law in fixing valuations is for the purpose of establishing uniformity, for having only one standard of measurement, and for insuring equality of burden, and not for the purpose of increasing taxes, as any increase or decrease must legally depend on the rate levied, and only on that rate.

Why We are at War With Germany

Many people do not understand why we are at war because incendiary bombs have not yet been dropped on Chicago, St. Louis and Kansas City, and it requires an explosion to attract their attention; but although we are at war we did not go to war ourselves; it was war that came to us. People in this country are lovers of peace and would do almost anything to keep out of war except having our women and children murdered. Rather than go to war some would prefer to be German slaves, but they are not in the majority.

We are at war because in the year 1864 the Prussians and the Austrians stole Schleswig-Holstein from Denmark and got away with it. If Prussia had not stole the site of the Kiel Canal we would not now be at war.

When the Austrians and Prussians had stolen Schleswig-Holstein they quarreled over it, and in the fight which ensued the Prussians put it all over Austria.

We are at war because in the year 1866 Prussia gobbled Hesse-Cassel, Nassau, Frankfurt, Hesse-Darmstadt and Hanover, and got away with them all. They are now all serving in the German army.

We are at war because the Prussians also gave a dirty beating to Bavaria, to Wurttemberg, to Baden, making all those countries subservient to Prussia, and their population work over-time for their conquerors in the German army.

We are at war because Prussia made mince-meat of France in 1870. Bismarck inveigled the French into war with a bogus telegram. With might they could not conquer Paris, but starvation did. The Germans gobbled Alsace and Lorraine and a billion dollars. Had the Germans not beaten France we would have been at peace today.

Then began the new German Empire. The world conqueror had come. All the German states were united. The Prussian conquest looked as though it was their conquest. Forty years ago the German Empire set about making preparations to conquer the earth, and we are at war because they came near doing it. Germany is great upon indemnities and staked out the United States to pay about ten millions of dollars, and we are at war because we prefer to pay out the money for the Red Cross and Liberty Loan.

We are at war because the German Government used the French money to prepare for war. The war prepared for was not against anyone in particular but against every nation. The United States was to be conquered the same as Belgium. The more peaceable the nation was the more liable to conquest. Under conquest the German nation was to dominate the world.

Forty years was necessary to prepare for a war that could not fail. Time was necessary for death to take two Kaisers. The third, the chosen instrument of the Almighty, and pulling together in blasphemous equality, is the manipulator of the scheme. The Emperor of Austria is a nonentity; the King of Bulgaria a pawn; the purchased government a purchased tool; all stand with bowed heads before the awful majesty of the Supreme War Lord. For effect he celebrated twenty-five years of peace which he could not help and afterwards waited the opportunity to strike at one weak nation after another. He thought he had the sword, the torch, the poison gas, the ammunition all ready and all at once his associates in the intended crime threw him into the fire of his own making.

We are at war because for forty years German emissaries have undermined all nations more or less. Their propaganda was and is everywhere. They were sent forth or allowed to go forth with the understanding that by hook, by crook or by war, pestilence or famine all nations must be Germanized. They made the cool calculation that as all nations loved peace they would not make full preparations for war. The calculation was to gobble up a nation at a time. They knew they had control of Austria, because Austria was full of pro-Germans and political dissensions. They also had pro-Germans at St. Petersburg, Athens and Bucharest. An accident of assassination, which we heartily condemn, was the immediate cause of the world conflict.

Archduke Ferdinand of Austria was assassinated in a country just previously gobbled by Austria, and the crime then committed was supposedly, but not proven, connived at by Serbian army officials. The Germans forced the Austrians to make unjust demands on Serbia with the intention of invasion if the demands were not acceded to. Serbia, backed by Russia, refused the demands. Out of this Germany found an excuse to attack France and Russia, and Austria started the war on Serbia.

Thus far it was a European affair which might lead in any direction without the United States butting in, but Germany soon began aggressive war against countries not at first involved in the war, and the United States was one of them. There was a little country between Germany and France governed by a woman, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg; and the Emperor of Germany invaded and stole it. There was a country that under treaty was obliged to be neutral in the earlier war between Prussia and France, but Germany invaded Belgium, and that country is under the brutal heel of the Hun. We are at war because of the German brutality to Belgium.

Germany is conducted governmentally by a Kaiser, surrounded by what is called an autocracy. The autocrat (in his mind) is a military superhuman who dominates all others. If a civilian is in the way he is kicked aside. It is not uncommon for a swaggering lieutenant to beat civilians with a sword. The Germans are a docile people and stand for a lot of kicking, but some of them escaped to America.

We are going to win the war because the official Germans suffer from "big head." They also have the "thick head." They try their manners

on the wrong kind of people. The Kaiser was off-handed with the Japanese, and see what he got for it. He said he would make the German name feared in China, but the only name they do not fear in China is the German. The German Ambassador tried his hand on Roosevelt, but had to back down again. A German admiral took particular pains to be nasty to Admiral Dewey in Manila Bay, but he had to back into obscurity. The German naval officer used to drink to "the day" when they would send the British navy to the bottom of the sea. We are at war because German officials have annoyed and brow-beaten everybody and carried a chip on the shoulder until somebody must knock it off. We are at war to knock it off. The situation resolved itself to this: The world had to lick the Germans or be enslaved by the Germans, and that is why we are at war. Under the German Kaiser the Turks started murdering Christians again. We are at war to stop that.

We are at war because the government forces of Germany are malignant liars and assassins of women and children. We are at war because the German autocracy forced their obedient soldiers to cut down apple trees in France for fear a French child might eat an apple. We are at war because the German cruiser shot down the American flag in American waters and threw breadstuffs into the sea, and we ought to have been at war with them the day after it happened. We are at war because the Germans deliberately sank a passenger ship with the loss of over a hundred American men, women and children.

We are at war with Germany because the people of this country know when they have had enough. We had more than enough of German official insolence. The patience of Job was not a fraction to the patience of Wilson. The German government thought they were dealing with dumb animals. They thought the worm would not turn. They sank our ships deliberately and without warning and thought our people would accept it as a joke. They had a playful way of turning guns on a few sailors trying to escape from the torpedoed vessels. When we were at peace with them they conspired to turn other nations against us and we caught them in the act. We are at war because we do not intend to allow them to conquer France. We are at war because we are going to force them to make restitution to Belgium. We are at war because we are going to force them to get out of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, and we are at war because we will make them restore and repair the independent country of Serbia.

We are at war with them in France because we do not want to wait until they have troops to send to Massachusetts. We are at war with the German autocrats because they are inhuman brutes, and we are not going to have the Germans who came to America for freedom disgraced by them. We are at war with them until they can make no submarines. We are at war with them until they will not have material left to make a zeppelin. We are at war with them until the business of organized murder and piracy is a lost art, so far as the German junker autocracy is concerned, and we ought to be at war until all the professional murderers of the German government obtain the punishment they deserve. In diplomatic language we are at war to make the world safe for democracy, which means that the military autocracy of Germany will have to be reduced to helplessness, even if in doing so it is necessary to kill every soldier in Germany in order to have peace in the world.

In conclusion, we are at war for the purpose of releasing the German nation from the curse of militarism, and no one knows better what that means than the Germans who have found refuge in the United States of America.

Not by the Editor.—This article is written in sorrow and not in anger. For nearly three years we have allowed the daily and weekly newspapers to tell the people about the war. The daily newspapers have neglected their opportunities, and this article is forced from us in answer to the positive question, which was: "Why did the United States butt in on this war?" The question shows that an answer is necessary. This country stayed out of the war until Washington, Patrick Henry, Jefferson, Lincoln and McKinley were turning in their graves. We are at war with the German government for the same reason that we are at war with wolves and snakes. If we do not tame them they will kill us. We are at war because if we were not at war we would be ashamed to look each other in the face.—Greenville Journal.

TENNESSEE WANTS MISSOURI SEED WHEAT

Requests for two carloads of wheat have been received by the University of Missouri College of Agriculture from Tennessee. The first request came from the Extension Service of the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. It called for information on a carload of either Fulcaster or Fultz seed wheat. The College of Agriculture has had five men in the field certifying wheat during the last four weeks and will be able to notify the Tennessee people where the wheat may be obtained. They will be referred to groups of farmers around those local centers which have transportation facilities that will give best service.

Another request came from C. E. Carter, a graduate of the University of Missouri College of Agriculture who is now county agent in Obion county, Tennessee. Mr. Carter wants a carload of wheat for one community and may want more for other parts of his county.

Numerous requests for smaller amounts of seed wheat have been received from Missouri farmers by the College of Agriculture. One farmer in Indiana who owns land in Missouri wants 400 bushels.

ANNUAL JOY WEEK

Make the five days of Chautauqua a time of mirth, laughter and good fellowship—mingle with your neighbors under the big tent—get acquainted with them on the one common ground where no creed or political party rules—
MAKE IT JOY WEEK FOR ALL.

A Program Worth While

J. Adam Bede

—the statesman-humorist of Congress.

Chas H. Plattenberg

—the "Loyalty to the Home Town" advocate.

Hon. Geo. W. Thompson

—a lawyer's description of "Comedies and Tragedies of the Law."

Edward A. Brinton

—fascinating story of "Paraguay—Land of War and Women."

Everett Kemp

—with his "million dollar smile."

The Cathedral Choir

—a double mixed quartet featuring sacred classics.

The Boston Players

—in the purposeful comedy "It Pays to Advertise."

The Hawaiians

—native players and singers.

The Maids of Killarney

—a vocal sextette and six-piece orchestra.

The Venetians

—a trio of versatile and talented entertainers

Farmington Chautauqua--August 21 to 25

A SEASON TICKET FOR THE FIVE BIG DAYS COSTS BUT \$1.50 NOW.

HOW SHALL PROPERTY BE VALUED FOR TAXATION?

The above is a live question. The only correct answer is: According to law. Many officers, however, do not know what the law is; therefore, how can the citizen be blamed for not knowing the law?

The State Tax Commission, for handy reference, has made a terse abstract of the law on the one point of "valuation." Here is that abstract. It contains all the law there is in the Missouri statutes. The sections are cited serially, as follows:

Sec. 11344 requires assessor to take oath that he will "assess all property at what he believes to be its actual cash value."

Sec. 11348 requires the person listing property to make "a true and correct statement of his property and its value."

Sec. 11351 provides form of oath made by person assessed to be "true and correct in his statement of all property and its value."

Sec. 11354 provides for the county board of equalization ascertaining the true amount and value of all property on each list, and if list made be found false, "such person shall be required to pay treble the amount of taxes" ascertained to be chargeable, and the maker of any false list is liable to punishment for perjury.

Sec. 11357 provides that bank property "shall be valued and assessed as other property at its true value in money."

Sec. 11358 provides that owners of building and loan association "stock" shall give a just and true list of the same to the assessor with the actual cash value of each share on the first day of June in each year."

Sec. 11384 provides that "the assessor shall value and assess all the property on his books according to its true value in money at the time of the assessment."

Again, in the same section, is repeated the assessor's duty to "value property at the cash price of such property at the time and place of listing the same for taxation."

Sec. 11392 provides that when the assessor has completed his book he shall verify it by affidavit stating that the book "contains all the taxable property correctly set forth in the manner and of the value stated herein according to the mode required by law."

Sec. 11403 in setting forth the duties of the county board of equalization, after requiring that the members shall take an oath to "fairly and impartially equalize the valuation of all taxable property," enjoins them to require "that each tract of land shall be entered on the tax book at its true value."

Sec. 11404 in fixing definite rules for the county board of equalization to observe says, "first, they shall raise the valuation of all property returned below its real value, according to the rule prescribed by law for valuation; second, they shall reduce the valuation of property returned above its true value."

Sec. 11412 in giving the duties of the state board of equalization requires "such per centum added to the valuation of property valued below its real value as will increase it to its true value; and such per centum deducted from valuations returned above real value in money as will reduce the same to its true value."

Sec. 20 of the State Tax Commission Act makes assessment of property "in accordance with the letter and plain provision of the law" the first enumerated duty of the Commission after conferring on the Commission the power to supervise the work of the assessor, and county boards of equalization and appeal, and after enjoining the Commission to adopt such measures as law affords to enforce all revenue acts to the end that sources of revenue shall not be impaired by lax administration.

If the law is not right, only the legislature, or a vote of the people, can change it.

WAR MAKES GREAT NEED FOR ENGINEERS

Government and military officials are calling for large numbers of engineers of all kinds to help in the present emergency and one of the most important points of national service which will be performed by the University of Missouri will be in helping to train efficient men for these needs. That was the statement of Dean E. J. McCaustland of the engineering school upon his return from Washington a few days ago.

Dean McCaustland attended a convention of engineering teachers and heard several addresses by government officials and men high in military affairs. These men urged teachers of engineering to stand at their posts and train as many men as they can along regular engineering lines. The government can then give these men special preparation for war service. Dean McCaustland said that Missouri University will help the nation to its utmost in this way. Men just out of high schools, he said, should heed the advice of the President and other government officials and prepare through higher education for greater national service.

Pershing is one of the most expeditionary generals that this country has ever had.

SOUTHEAST MISSOURI LIVE STOCK MEN'S CONVENTION

Southeast Missouri live stock men are called to meet at Farmington August 23 and 24. The purpose of this meeting is to afford an opportunity for the discussion of problems confronting the live stock men of this section and ways and means of increasing and improving live stock in Southeast Missouri.

At this meeting the cattle, sheep and hog men alike will have an opportunity of hearing discussions by men of national reputation in their various lines. The plan is to bring the best authorities of the country to this meeting with the intention of lending the greatest possible stimulus to the development of the live stock industry of this section. Great opportunities in live stock farming exist in Southeast Missouri, and it is hoped that everyone interested in the live stock business will plan to attend this meeting.

The meeting is held under the auspices of the Missouri Live Stock Producers' Association. For programs or further information write to S. T. Simpson, secretary, Columbia, Mo.

Proposals Wanted

State Hospital No. Four, DEPOSITORY.

Sealed proposals will be received by the Secretary of the Board of Managers of State Hospital No. Four, for custody of the funds of said institution, from banking corporations, associations or individual bankers desiring to be selected as such depository, for the ensuing two years, ending August, 1919.

Said bids shall be delivered to the Secretary of the Board of Managers of State Hospital No. Four until 10 o'clock a. m., Monday, August 13, 1917, on which day they will be considered by the Board of Managers in regular session.

Each of said bids shall be accompanied by a check in favor of said institution on some solvent banking corporation, association, trust company or individual banker, duly certified, for not less than one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars, as a guaranty of good faith on the part of the bidder that if its or his bid shall be accepted by the board it or he will enter into the bond hereinafter provided by the Board of Managers according to Sec. 5 Laws of Missouri, 1911.

The Board of Managers reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

G. C. VANDOVER,
28-4t Sec. Board of Managers.

Notice to the Public

I wish to state, for the benefit of the public, that we are in Farmington to stay in the music business. To anyone contemplating the purchase of a musical instrument we will state that our terms are reasonable and will guarantee you fair treatment.

THEO. HODGE MUSIC STORE

HARLEY KNOWLES, Salesman.